

Message Text

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ORIGIN EUR-12

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DRAFTED BY EUR/EE:THGERTH/RN

APPROVED BY EUR:JAARMITAGE

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R 280154Z JAN 76

FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMEMBASSY BUDAPEST

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PFOR, HU

SUBJECT: CALL BY AMBASSADOR ESZTERGALYOS

1. AT HIS OWN REQUEST AMBASSADOR ESZTERGALYOS CALLED ON MR. ARMITAGE JANUARY 27 TO DISCUSS RECENT DEVELOPMENTS IN US-HUNGARIAN RELATIONS. THE MEETING TOOK PLACE IN A FRIENDLY AND POSITIVE ATMOSPHERE.

2. BICENTENNIAL PARTICIPATION: AMBASSADOR ESZTERGALYOS INFORMED MR. ARMITAGE THAT HUNGARY NOW INTENDS TO PARTICIPATE IN THE BICENTENNIAL IN THREE WAYS -- (1) EXHIBITION OF FOLK COSTUMES AND PUPPETS AT A BALTIMORE ETHNIC FESTIVAL IN EARLY MARCH. A FOLKLORIST WILL ACCOMPANY THE EXHIBITION; (2) CONTRIBUTION TO A SMITHSONIAN EXHIBITION ON ART NOUVEAU IS UNDER DISCUSSION; (3) A HUNGARIAN FOLK ENSEMBLE WILL BE IN THE SMITHSONIAN FOLKLIFE FESTIVAL IN WASHINGTON AND TOURING 5 OR 6 CITIES.

3. VISITS: THE HUNGARIAN AMBASSADOR EXPLAINED THAT HE HAS LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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PROPOSED TO BUDAPEST THE VISIT OF AGRICULTURE MINISTER

ROMANY AS THE FIRST PRIORITY. HE CITED THE EXTREMELY SUCCESSFUL VISIT OF SECRETARY BUTZ AND THE POTENTIAL FOR A PURPOSEFUL VISIT AS THE REASONS FOR HIS CHOICE OUT OF THE SEVERAL OUTSTANDING INVITATIONS. HE HAS RECOMMENDED THAT ANY VISITS TAKE PLACE BEFORE THE END OF MAY.

MR. ARMITAGE REPLIED THAT THE GOH SHOULD NOT FEEL PRESSURED BY THE OUTSTANDING INVITATIONS; WE UNDERSTAND HOW BUSY SENIOR GOH OFFICIALS ARE. WE WOULD WELCOME THE AGRICULTURE MINISTER AND ANY OF THE OTHER SENIOR OFFICIALS WHO HAVE BEEN INVITED.

4. THE AMBASSADOR REITERATED FOREIGN MINISTER PUJA'S PREVIOUS INVITATION TO THE SECRETARY TO VISIT BUDAPEST. MR. ARMITAGE RESPONDED THAT WE WOULD CONTINUE TO KEEP THIS IN MIND AS THE SECRETARY'S TRAVEL SCHEDULE DEVELOPS. KISSINGER

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